

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IFAD, OCON, AORG
SUBJECT: IFAD CATEGORY I GROUP MEETING IN ROME

1. AT ROME IFAD CATEGORY I MEETING, SEPTEL, THE NORWEGIAN PERMREP TO THE FAO SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD PREPARED A PAPER WHICH STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE PRESENT IFAD LENDING CRITERIA PROPOSAL. HE NOTED THAT THE SCANDANAVIAN COUNTRIES HAD MET ON THE NORWEGIAN PAPER AND SUPPORTED IT. THE NORWEGIAN PERMREP WENT ON TO SAY HE HAD DISCUSSED IN GENERAL HIS COUNTRY'S PAPER WITH AL-SUDEARY, IFAD PRESIDENT, WHO WANTED TO HAVE A STRONG SUPPORTIVE POSITION IN BACK OF HIM TO COUNTER LATIN AMERICAN OBJECTIONS TO IFAD LENDING CRITERIA WHICH NOW BEING PREPARED.

2. SWISS ERMREP QUESTIONED NORWEGIAN REP ON THEIR PAPER SINCE HIS GOVERNMENT HAD STRONG RESERVATIONS ON TECHNICAL FINANCIAL GROUNDS OF IFAD LENDING CRITERIA PAPER. HE DISTINGUISHED HIS COUNTRY'S TECHNICAL QUESTIONS FROM ITS APPROVAL OF THE OVERALL POLICY.

3. FRG PERMREP SAID HIS COUNTRY HAD SOME QUALMS OVER IFAD LENDING CRITERIA BUT FELT PRESENT DOCUMENT WAS BEST WE COULD
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GET AND SHOULD BE DEFENDED AGAINST CHANGES.

4. GROUP GENERALLY AGREED THAT THIS WAS CRITICAL ISSUE FOR NEXT IFAD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING. GROUP FURTHER THOUGHT CATEGORY I SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY IF COORDINATED WITH AL-SUDEARY AND POSSIBLY SOME MEMBERS OF CATEGORY II OPEC MEMBERS, WOULD STRENGTHEN GOAL OF NORWEGIANS. TOWARD THIS END GROUP AGREED

ON THE NEED TO SET UP A WORKING PARTY TO STUDY NORWEGIAN PAPER
WITH HOPE OF OBTAINING CATEGORY I SUPPORT.

5. JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE AND NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN IFAD
CATEGORY I GROUP HAYAKAWA AGREED TO WORK ON THIS ISSUE AND SET
UP A WORKING PARTY, PROBABLY OF SIX BASED ON CATEGORY I
CONSTITUENCIES.

6. NORWEGIAN REP IS GOING TO SEEK HIS GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL AND
THEN SCANDANAVIAN APPROVAL TO GIVE HIS PAPER ON LENDING CRITERIA
TO WORKING PARTY FOR SUPPORT OF WHOLE IFAD CATEGORY I.

7. IT WAS ALSO CONFIRME D AT THIS MEETING THAT AL-SUDEARY IS NOW
PLANNING THE NEXT IFAD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING FOR EARLY IN
APRIL. BIRNBAUM SAYS THIS IS SCHEDULED
FOR APRIL 10M HE WAS NOT WARE THAT CFA BEGINS SAME DAY.
GARDNER

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